



20537-905616

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: : ROBINSON, A et al.
SERIAL NO: : 09/739,529
FILED: : December 15, 2000
FOR: : OPTICAL FIBER AMPLIFIER
EXAMINER: : WANG, G.
GROUP ART UNIT: : 2882

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Director of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231," on March 31, 2003.

Name of person signing Jennifer J. Ramirez
Signature [Signature]

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF JANUARY 9, 2003

Honorable Director of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

In response to the Office Action mailed January 09 2003 with reference to the above-identified application, we submit the following remarks:

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 9 are pending in this application. All claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown (US 6,317,549) in view of Imoto (US 5,742,722) and Hodges et al. (US 4 838 643). Reconsideration is requested.

As previously submitted, the instant invention uses gain fiber with mode field diameter higher than previously contemplated, in combination with a particular selection of refractive index properties.

#13/Response
marsha
4/10/03

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